

**Amendments to the Claims:**  
**Listing of the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-4 (canceled)

5. (currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, or the complete complement of said nucleic acid sequence, or both.

6. (currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence which encodes a polypeptide that interacts with and activates an estrogen receptor and a progesterone receptor, said polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 85% 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:2, and wherein the differences between the amino acid sequence of said polypeptide and SEQ ID NO:2 are due to conservative amino acid substitutions.

7. (previously presented) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 5, wherein the polynucleotide is incorporated into an expression vector, a viral vector, or a liposome.

8. (currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a sequence which is complementary to the entire nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1\_ or the protein encoding portion of SEQ ID NO: 1.

9. (previously presented) A primer set comprising a first purified primer comprising a sequence which is identical to a first sequence of 10 or more contiguous nucleotides in the protein encoding portion of SEQ ID NO.1, and a second purified primer comprising a sequence which is complementary to a second sequence of 10 or more contiguous nucleotides in the protein encoding sequence of SEQ ID NO. 1, wherein each of said primers has a G + C content of at least 40%.

10. (previously presented) A primer set comprising at least two purified oligonucleotides wherein one of said oligonucleotides comprises SEQ ID NO: 3 and another of said oligonucleotides comprises SEQ ID NO:4.

11-22 (canceled)

23. (previously presented) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 5, wherein the polynucleotide comprises the protein encoding sequence of SEQ ID NO. 1.

24. (previously presented ) An isolated polynucleotide, comprising on or both of the following:

- (a) an altered SEQ ID NO. 1,
- (b) the complement of (a),

wherein the alterations to SEQ ID NO:1 comprise one or both of the following:

- i) addition or inclusion of restriction sites in SEQ ID NO: 1; and
- ii) replacement of naturally occurring codons in SEQ ID NO: 1 with non-naturally occurring codons that permit expression of said polynucleotide in a host cell.

25. (previously presented) An isolated polynucleotide, comprising on or both of the following:

- (a) an altered protein encoding portion of SEQ ID NO. 1,
- (b) the complement of (a),

wherein the alterations to the protein encoding portion of SEQ ID NO:1 comprise one or both of the following:

- i) addition or inclusion of restriction sites in the protein encoding portion of SEQ ID NO: 1; and
- ii) replacement of naturally occurring codons in the protein encoding portion of SEQ ID NO: 1 with non-naturally occurring codons that permit expression of said polynucleotide in a host cell.